

## Message Text

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10

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

AID-05 /055 W

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R 271200Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4236

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

UNCLAS SAIGON 3635

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, VS

SUBJECT: VN PRESS CONTINUES TO ATTACK US POSITION ON VIETNAM

DEPT PASS TO IBS/NCA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. TRANG DEN (INDEPENDENT OPPOSITION) RAN HIGHLY CRITICAL EDITORIAL ON MARCH 21 CONDEMNING US INACTION IN FACE OF COMMUNIST OFFENSIVE. ENTITLED "DON'T LISTEN TO WHAT THE AMERICANS SAY," LEAD PARAGRAPH CHARACTERIZES SECRETARY KISSINGER AS "FATHER OF THE PARIS TREATY" AND ACCUSES HIM OF "WANDERING IN THE MIDDLE EAST WHILE THE WAR SITUATION IN VIETNAM IS IN TURMOIL; PHUOC LONG HAS BEEN LOST, AND NOW BAN ME THUOT IS GOING TO FALL." QUESTIONING WHY "KISSINGER REMAINS SILENT" TRAN DEN CHARGES THAT THE "AMERICANS ARE RESPONSIBLE" FOR CURRENT SITUATION IN VIETNAM.

2. ON MARCH 25, GVN NEWS AGENCY, VIETNAM PRESS RAN BRIEF ACCOUNT OF LETTER TO SIR ROBERT THOMPSON BY SENATOR KHIEU THIEN KE IN WHICH SENATOR AGREED WITH SIR ROBERT ON WHAT HE TERMED THE UNCLASSIFIED

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"US STRATEGIC SURRENDER." THE MOST DEPLORABLE THING, SENATOR

KE EMPHASIZED, " WAS A COMRADE-IN-ARMS LEFT ALONE WITH A GUN WITH AN EMPTY MAGAZINE." SAME ARTICLE REPORTED THAT "IN HIS 4-PAGE LETTER DATED MARCH 21, 1975, TO SIR ROBERT THOMPSON, SENATOR KE REJECTED THE IDEA OF 'SOUTH VIETNAM POSSIBLY COLLAPSING." WHEN FACE TO FACE WITH PERIL, SENATOR KE EXPOUNDED, THE INSTINCT OF PRESERVATION WILL ENGENDER COHESION WITH WHICH THE RVN ARMY AND PEOPLE WEATHER ANY STORM SO THAT THE FREE SOUTH SURVIVES." SAME ISSUE OF VIETNAM PRESS RAN STORY ENTITLED, "OPPOSITION REPRESENTATIVE'S OPINION ON US ATTITUDE" IN WHICH DEPUTY NGUYEN MINH DANG, RAPPORTEUR OF LOWER HOUSE DEFENSE COMMITTEE, CRITICIZED WHAT HE CALLED "TREASON OF THE US ALLY IN EX-PRESIDENT NIXON'S DESENGAGEMENT POLICY DESIGNED FOR THE US TO PULL OUT OF VIETNAM." ACCORDING TO DEPUTY DANG, "WHILE COMMUNIST NORTH VIETNAM RECEIVED ABUNDANT MILITARY AID FROM SCORES OF COMMUNIST STATES, THE RVN SUFFERED PENURY AND CRANED ITS NECK IN HOPE OF US IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS COMMITMENTS." DANG POINTED OUT THAT US HAS RESPONSIBILITY AS SIGNATORY TO PARIS AGREEMENT AND APPEALED TO "THE COMMON SENSE OF THE US PEOPLE WHO SHOULD NOT FAVOR THEIR PERSONAL INTERESTS AND FORSAKE AN ALLY THAT HAS BEEN FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM.<sup>3</sup>

3. DOC LAP (INDEPENDENT) RAN EDITORIAL ON MARCH 25 OFFERING DETERIORATING SITUATION IN CAMBODIA AND SVN AS REASON WHY "US CAN ONLY INCREASE ITS FINANCIAL AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE." STATING FURTHER THAT THIS COURSE IS NOT EASY, CONSIDERING THE PRESENT OPPOSITION RAISED BY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND CONGRESS, THE ARTICLE CONCLUDED THAT "A US ATTITUDE OF ABANDONMENT WILL INDICATE THE BEGINNING OF RAPID DECLINE OF THE NON-COMMUNIST WORLD. THEN, WHAT COURSE WILL THE US CHOOSE? THIS IS A HARD DECISION FOR THE U.S. IN THE STRATEGIC FIELD -- AND AN EVEN HARDER ONE FOR IT IN TERMS OF ITS CONSCIENCE."

4. ON MARCH 26, PRO-GVN QUAT CUONG EDITORIALIZED THAT: "PEOPLE ARE CONFIDENT THAT FOR REASONS OF PRESTIGE -- NOT INTEREST -- THE US WILL BE COMPELLED TO BE FIRM IN BOTH DIPLOMATIC AND MILITARY FIELDS TO FORCE COMMUNIST NVN TO END AGGRESSION AND RETURN TO CONFERENCE TABLE. ACCORDING TO GUAM DOCTRINE US HAS LESSENED ITS MILITARY FORCE IN SEA BUT THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT IT WANTS THE SOVIET UNION AND COMMUNIST CHINA TO REPLACE IT IN THIS ZONE."

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5. IN MARCH 27 EDITORIAL THAT OPENED WITH: "US ADVISORS CAME HERE TO REPLACE FRENCH OFFICERS, "DAI DAN TOC (STRONG OPPOSITION) ACCUSED US OF PROTECTING ITSELF "IN A VERY SELFISH SPIRIT." THAT IS WHY, ACCORDING TO DAI DAN TOC PUBLISHER WHO WROTE ARTICLE, ONE CAN SEE WORDS "US GO HOME" WHEREVER US TROOPS ARE STATIONED. ATTRIBUTING QUOTE TO FORMER PRESIDENT JOHNSON THAT "WE ARE FIGHTING OUTSIDE US TERRITORY IN ORDER TO

AVOID BRINGING WAR INTO THE US" ARTICLE SAYS NOW "US AND SOVIET UNION HAVE SHAKEN HANDS. SO WHY DO WE WANT TO CONTINUE TO FIGHT WHILE THE PROMOTER AND TREASURER DEEM IT U ECESSARY." ARTICLE CONCLUDED THAT BEST SOLUTION IS TO "SETTLE THINGS AMONG OURSELVES" AND NOT "RELY ON OUTSIDE STRENGTH, MEANS AND MONEY TO KILL ONE ANOTHER. THERE IS NO LONGER ANYONE STANDING BEHIND US AND WE ARE ALONE. THEREFORE, ALL DECISIONS AND CALCULATIONS MUST REST ONLY WITH THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE THEMSELVES."

6. IN MARCH 27 ISSUE, TRANG DEN DELIVERED SCATHING INDICTMENT CHARGING THAT: "ALL WAR CRIMES HERE ARE COMMITTED BY US, USSR AND CHINA. CONCERNING US IN PARTICULAR, ITS CRIMES ARE EVER HEAVIER AND MORE TRAGIC. THE FIERCER THE WAR, THE BIGGER THE LAND LOSSES AND THE MORE CLEARLY ONE CAN SEE THE TRUE FACE OF THE U.S.... THE MORE A COUNTRY RECEIVES US AID, THE MORE IT CURSES AND STRONGLY OPPOSES THE U.S. THIS IS THE BLOOD AND TEARS EXPERIENCE OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE."  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, POLICIES, POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**TAGS:** PINT, VS, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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